

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 26 January 1954

SUBJECT Material Supply in the East German
High-Vacuum Tube Industry

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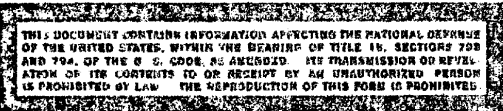
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SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. East German high-vacuum technology, which comprises the production of transmitter and receiver tubes, special tubes for electronic measurement devices, image tubes, amplifier tubes and technical tubes, has been suffering because of serious difficulties incurred in procuring critical raw materials. The situation is especially serious because all telecommunications services, transmitting and receiving stations, X-ray devices for medical technology and the technology of measurement and control devices require high quality electronic tubes.
2. In late August or early September 1953 Main Administration RFT sent a memorandum to the Minister for General Machine Construction suggesting that an attempt to clear up the situation be made by improving production and technological conditions at VEB Halbzeugwerk Auerhammer. It was pointed out that Heraeus Vakuumerschmelze in Hanau, West Germany, prepared and processed important materials for West German and West European plants engaged in the field of high-vacuum technology. Joint statements of scientists and technicians in the East German radio and telecommunications industries and metallurgical industry have pointed out that VEB Halbzeugwerk Auerhammer, in cooperation with SAG Walzwerk fuer Buntmetalle, Hettstedt, could by joint operations create a plant equivalent to the Heraeus Vakuumerschmelze enterprise. It was suggested that the Ministry for Mining and Smelting and the Ministry for General Machine Construction engage all scientists and technicians available and prepare plans for joint Auerhammer-Hettstedt operations. These plans would then be submitted to the Praesidium of the Council of Ministers in the shortest time possible.

25X1 Comment: Another step toward improving the material supply situation has been taken by the Berliner Gluehlampenwerk, which has begun manufacturing thoriated tungsten wire, an item critically needed for East German high-vacuum technology.

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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